

NEWS RELEASE

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MAYOR BALLARD APPOINTS DEPUTY MAYOR OF EDUCATION

Teach For America leader will drive collaborative effort in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard today announced his appointment of Jason Kloth for his administration's new cabinet-level position, Deputy Mayor of Education. In this role, Mr. Kloth will lead a collaborative effort to address the crucial education needs of Indianapolis.

Mr. Kloth began his career as a sixth-grade language arts teacher in Texas's Rio Grande Valley, where he was recognized by his colleagues as Teacher of the Year. He has worked for Teach For America in varying capacities since 2005, most recently as Senior Vice President of Public Affairs leading an operating unit charged with managing Teach For America's federal government affairs, media and communications, federal policy, research and evaluations, and community relations. Prior to that role he was executive director of Teach For America-Indianapolis. In addition, he served as Board Chairman of KIPP Indianapolis College Preparatory.

"Jason's experience in effecting change at the classroom and school level, expanding educational opportunity locally, and collaborating at the national level will enable our community to put the best interests of our children – our future – first," said Mayor Ballard. "Our priority is to improve scholastic achievement of our city's youth through better choice and accountability, and I can't think of anyone better than Jason, with his Indianapolis background and commitment, to lead that charge in Marion County."

"I am honored to be appointed to this position within the City of Indianapolis and will remain focused on improving educational outcomes for students in our community," said Mr. Kloth. "I am committed to working in partnership with families, schools, and community stakeholders to ensure that our work advances the broader good for all children in Marion County."

In addition, Mr. Kloth will expand ongoing efforts to attract educational organizations to our city in pursuit of Indianapolis becoming the education reform capital of the nation. Under Deputy Mayor Kloth's leadership, Director of Charter Schools Beth Bray will continue to grow the successful charter school movement in Indianapolis that currently includes 22 Mayor-sponsored charter schools serving approximately 8,500 students.

Mayor Ballard's appointment for Deputy Mayor of Education will follow the same confirmation process for all Deputy-level Mayoral appointees.

EDITORS NOTE: For pronunciation purposes, "Kloth" rhymes with "oath."

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